

MODULE 13

UNIFIED COMMAND

MODULE OVERVIEW

- **Origin and description of Unified Command**
- **Advantages and applications**
- **Primary features of Unified Command**

MODULE OVERVIEW

- Guidelines for use of Unified Command
- Responsibilities of the Unified Commander

MODULE OBJECTIVES

- Define Unified Command
- Define the advantages of Unified Command
- Define the kinds of situations which may call for a Unified Command organization

MODULE OBJECTIVES

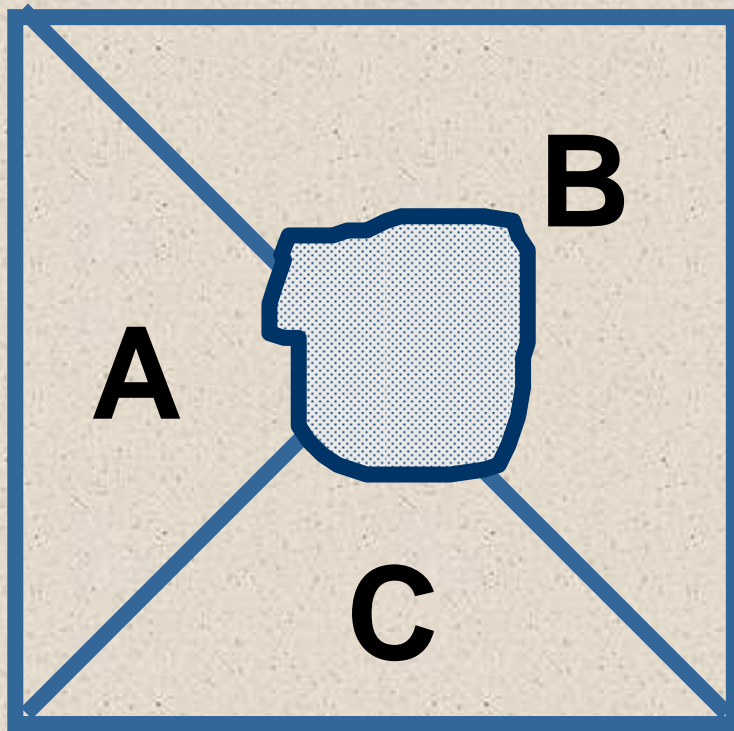
- Identify primary features of a Unified Command
- Describe roles and reporting relationships under Unified Command involving agencies from the same jurisdiction, and under multi-jurisdiction conditions

MODULE OBJECTIVES

- Describe areas of cost sharing which might apply under a Unified Command structure
- Given a simulated situation, describe an appropriate Unified Command organization

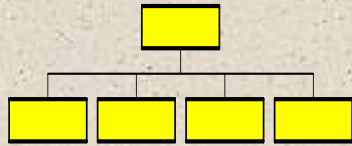
INCIDENT INVOLVING THREE JURISDICTIONS

CREATE A UNIFIED COMMAND

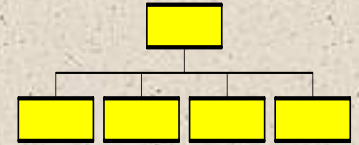


TYPICAL INCIDENT

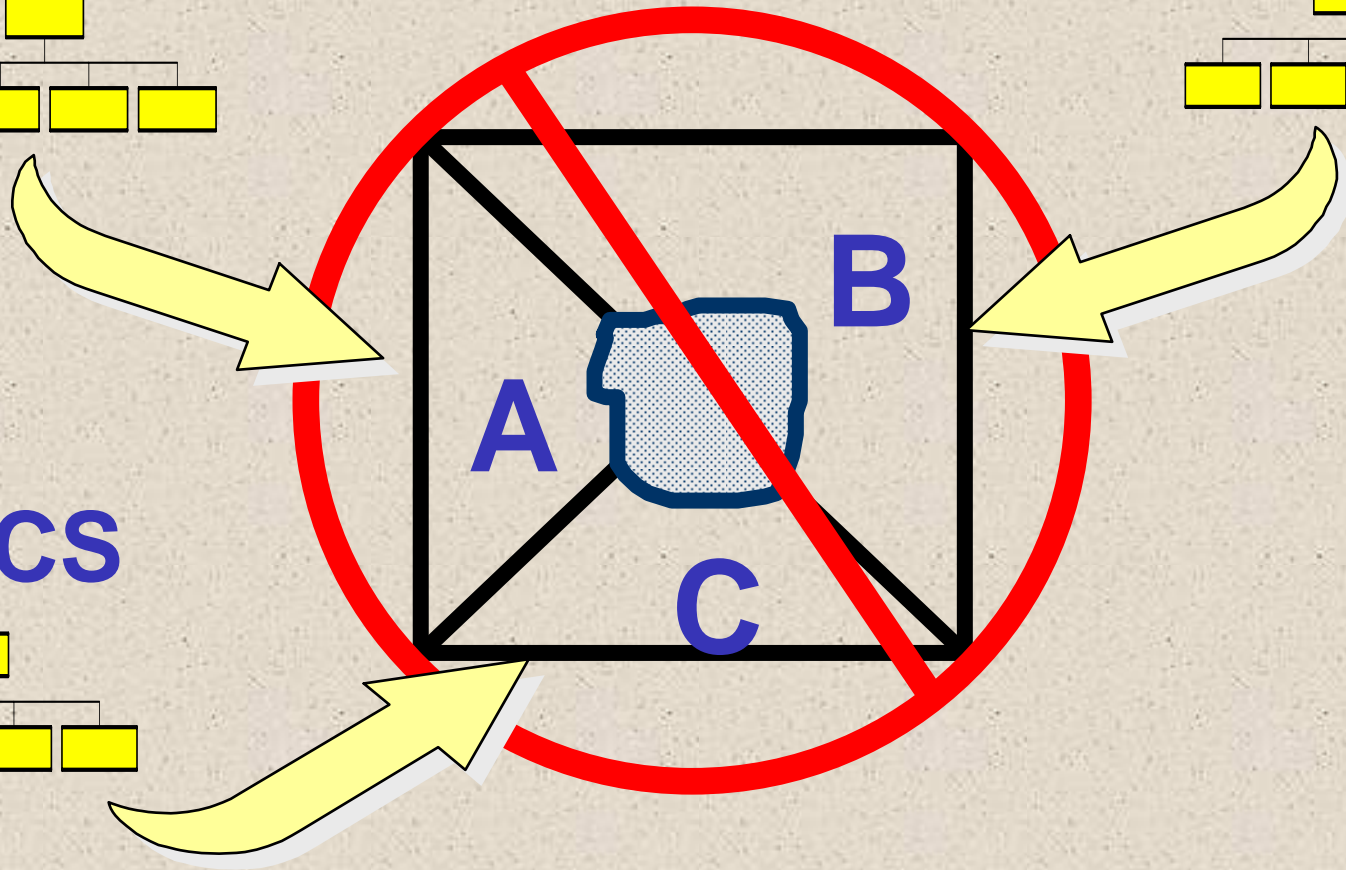
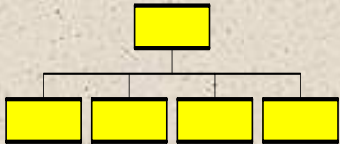
A-ICS



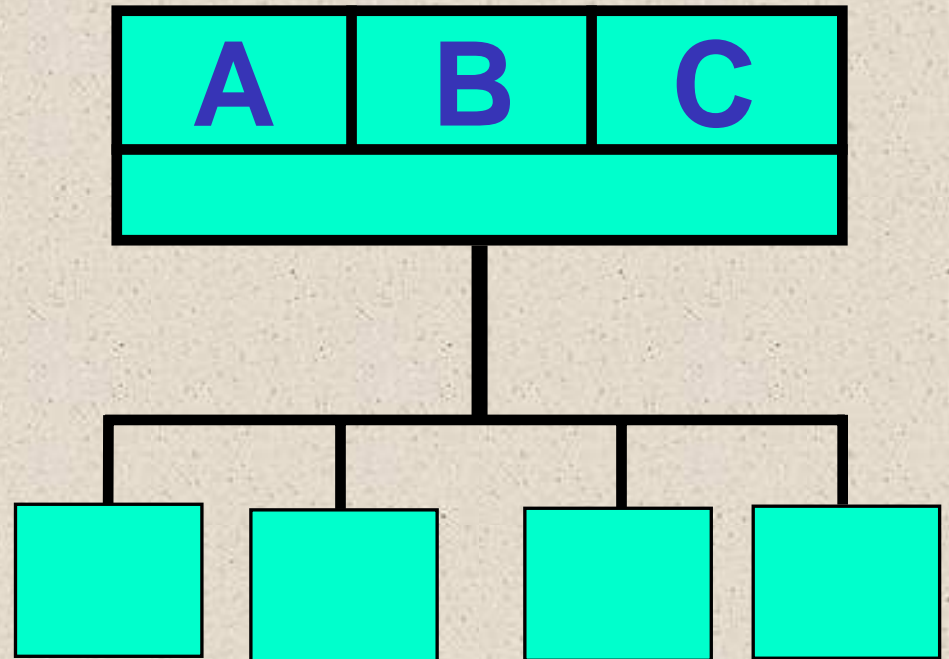
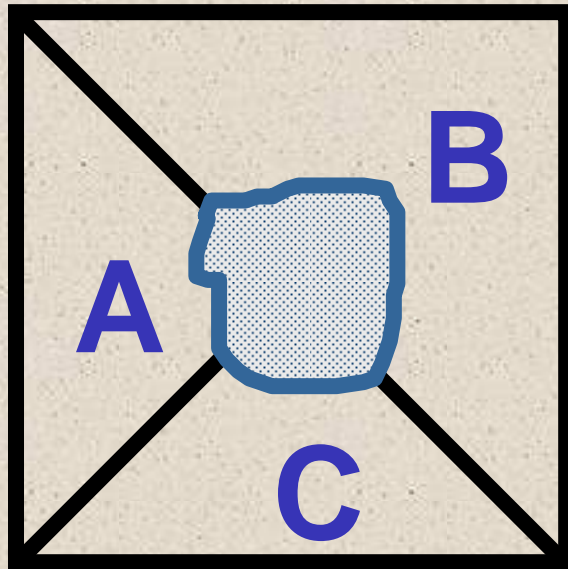
B-ICS



C-ICS



UNIFIED COMMAND



ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

ELEMENTS

ICS UNIFIED COMMAND

**OBJECTIVES
POLICY**



**JURISDICTIONS
AGENCIES**

ORGANIZATION



**UNIFIED COMMAND
STRUCTURE**

RESOURCES



**AGENCY PERSONNEL
EQUIPMENT**

OPERATIONS



**SINGLE OPERATIONS
SECTION CHIEF**

WHY USE UNIFIED COMMAND?

- Practical
- Cost effective
- Improves incident management

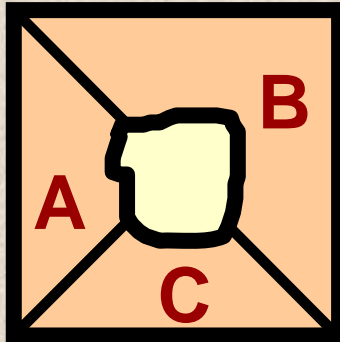
ADVANTAGES OF USING UNIFIED COMMAND

- One set of objectives
- Collective approach to strategies
- Improved information flow and coordination
- Better understanding of objectives, priorities, limitations, and restrictions

ADVANTAGES OF USING UNIFIED COMMAND

- Each agency's plans, actions, and constraints are known
- No compromise of authority
- Optimizes combined efforts of all agencies
- Cost effective

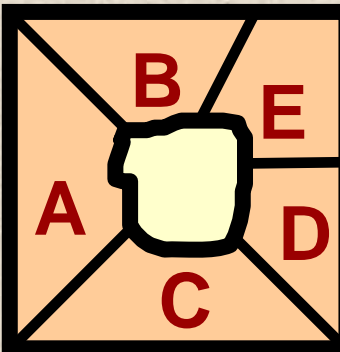
UNIFIED COMMAND APPLICATIONS



**Incidents That
Affect More Than One
Political Jurisdiction**

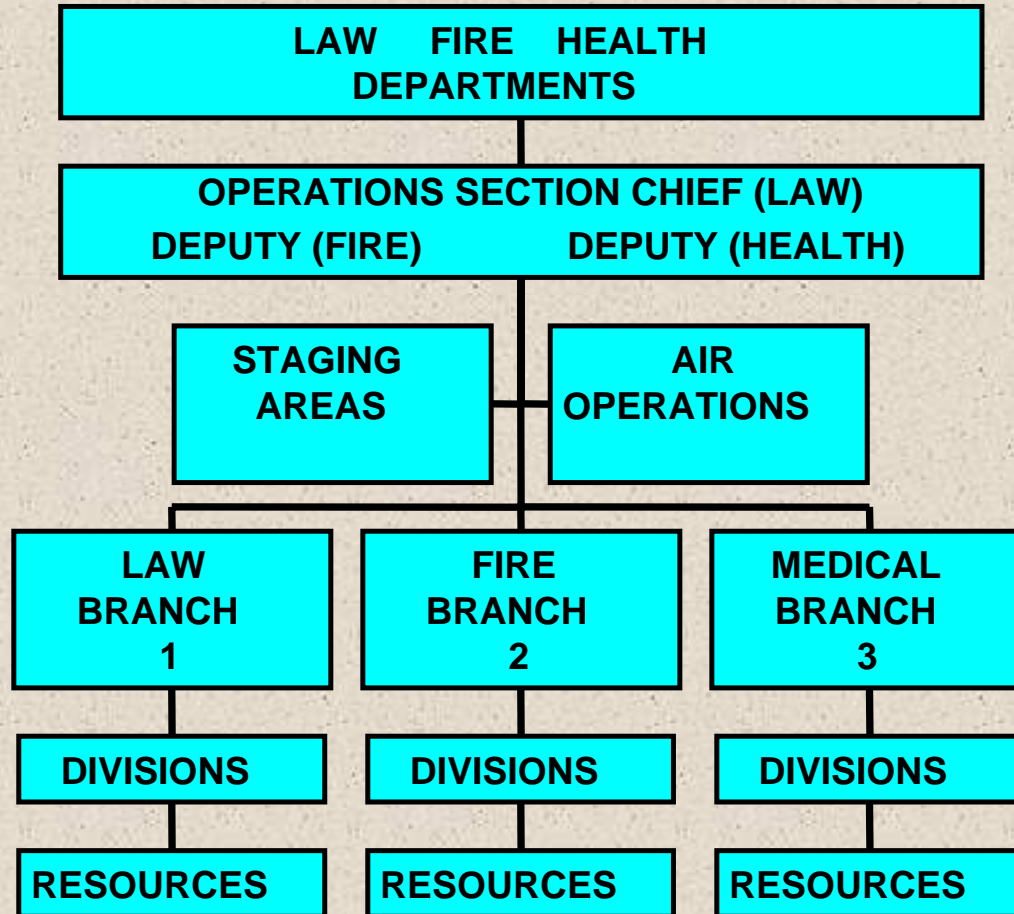


**Incidents Involving
Multiple Agencies
Within a Jurisdiction**



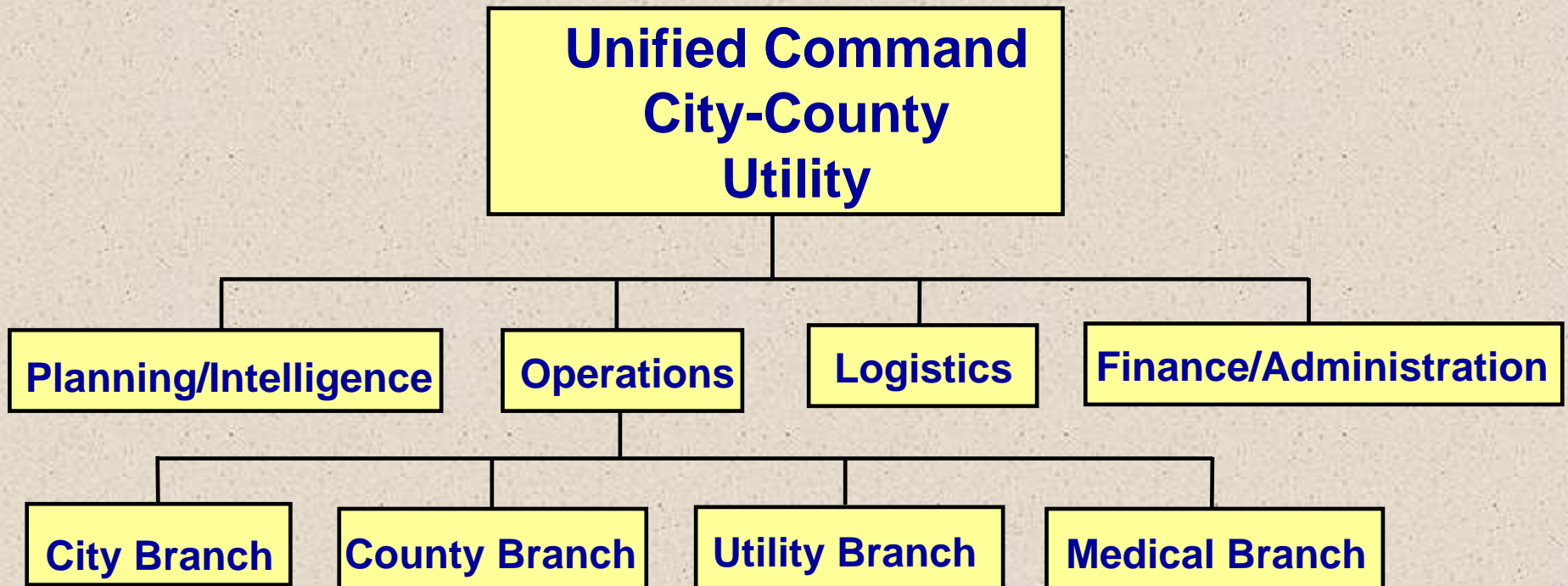
**Incidents That Impact
on Multiple
Geographic and
Functional Agencies**

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND



(SINGLE/TEAMS/TASK FORCES)

MULTI-JURISDICTION BRANCH ORGANIZATION



UNIFIED COMMAND FEATURES

- Single integrated incident organization
- Collocated facilities
- Integrated planning process - Incident Action Plan

UNIFIED COMMAND FEATURES

- Shared planning/intelligence, logistical and finance/admin. functions
- Coordinated resource ordering

A UNIFIED COMMAND ORGANIZATION DEPENDS ON:

- The location of the incident, which often determines the jurisdictions that must be involved
- The kind of incident, which dictates the functional agencies of the involved jurisdiction(s), as well as other agencies that may be involved

PURPOSE OF THE UNIFIED COMMAND MEETING

- State jurisdictional/agency priorities and objectives
- Present jurisdictional limitations, concerns, restrictions
- Develop a collective set of incident objectives

PURPOSE OF THE COMMAND MEETING

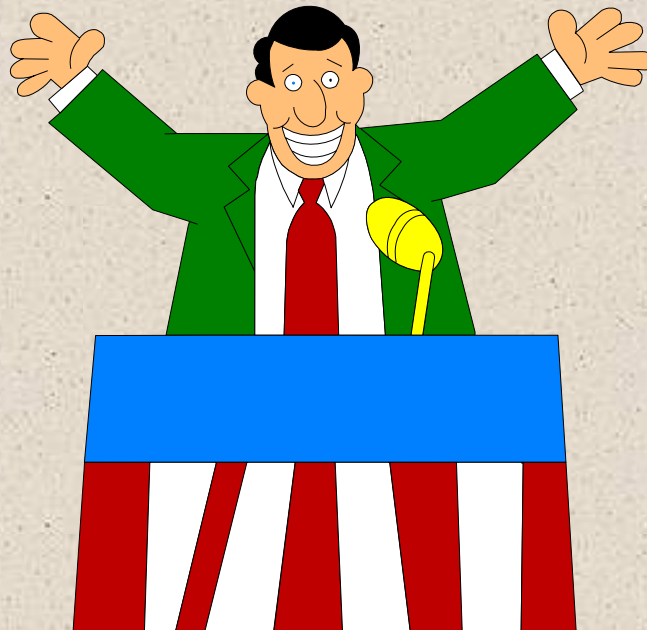
- Establish and agree on acceptable priorities
- Adopt an overall strategy(ies)
- Agree on the basic organization structure
- Designate an acceptable Operations Section Chief

PURPOSE OF THE COMMAND MEETING

- Agree on planning/intelligence, logistical and finance/administration procedures
- Agree on the resource ordering process
- Agree on cost-sharing procedures

PURPOSE OF THE COMMAND MEETING

- Agree on informational matters
- Designate one agency official as a unified spokesperson



COMMAND MEETING REQUIREMENTS

- The command meeting should include only agency Incident Commanders
- The meeting should be brief, and important points should be documented

COMMAND MEETING REQUIREMENTS

- Prior to the meeting, the responsible officials should review the purposes and agenda items, and be prepared to discuss them



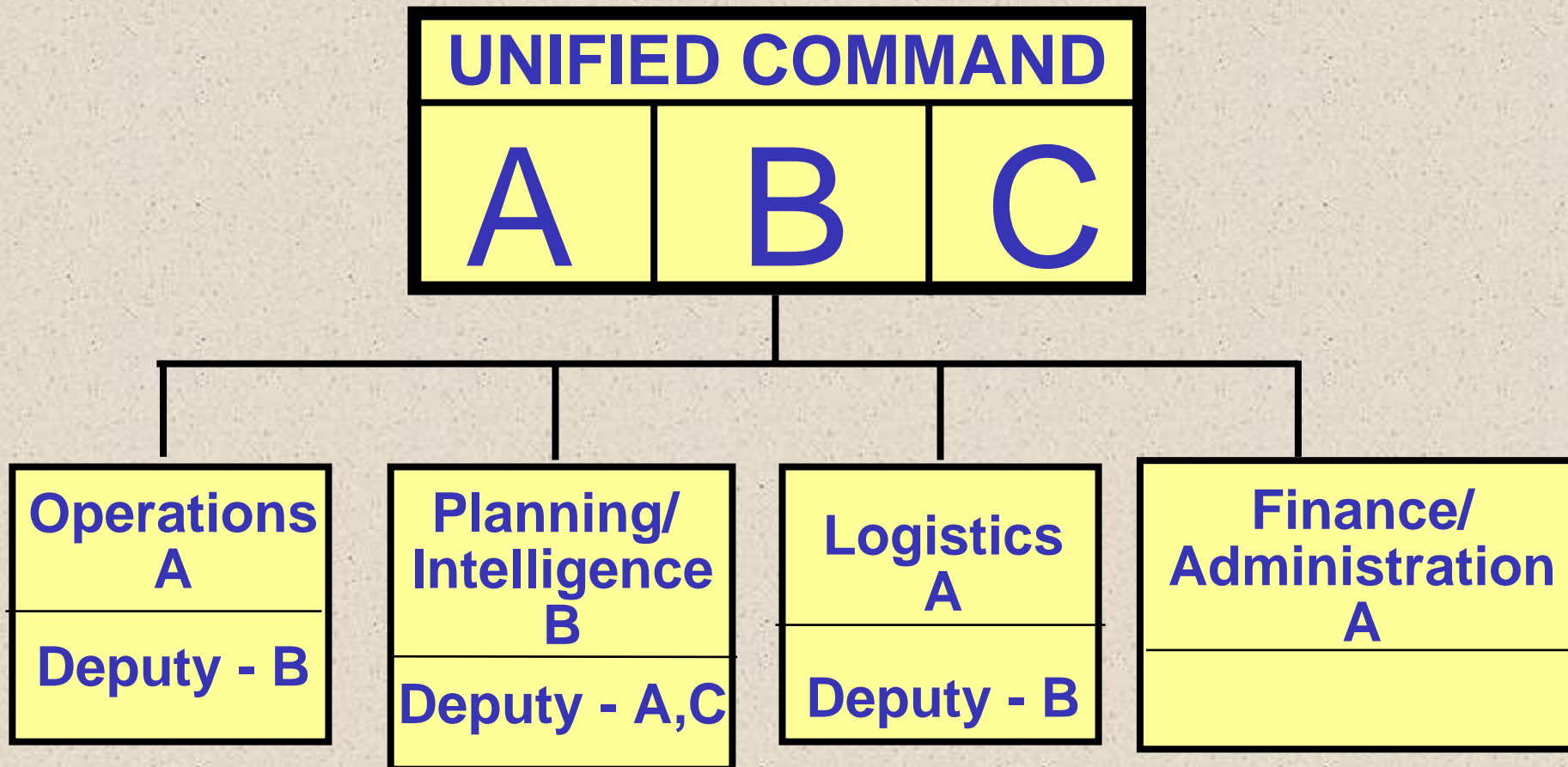
INCIDENT ACTION PLANNING MEETING RESULTS ARE USED TO:

- **Decide on tactical operations for the next operational period**
- **Establish the Unified Operations Section organization**
- **Establish combined logistics, planning/intelligence, and finance/administration as needed**

INCIDENT ACTION PLANNING MEETING RESULTS ARE USED TO:

- **Establish resource requirements and determine resource availability and sources**
- **Make resource assignments**

USE OF DEPUTY POSITIONS UNDER UNIFIED COMMAND

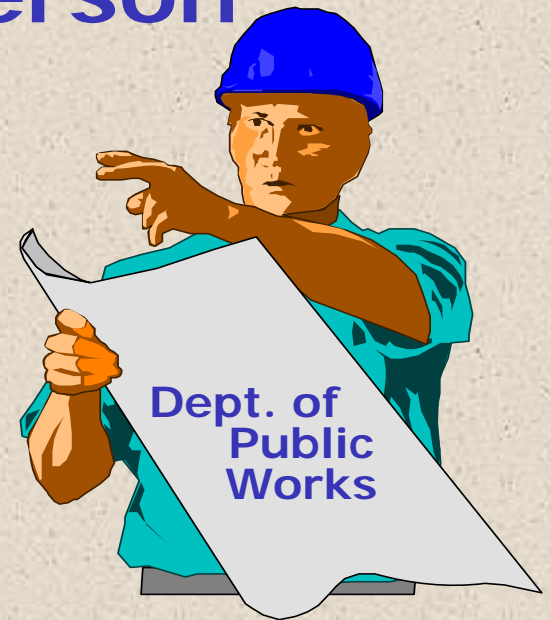


GUIDELINES FOR USING UNIFIED COMMAND

- **Understand ICS Unified Command**
- **Collocate essential functions**
- **Start early to use ICS**

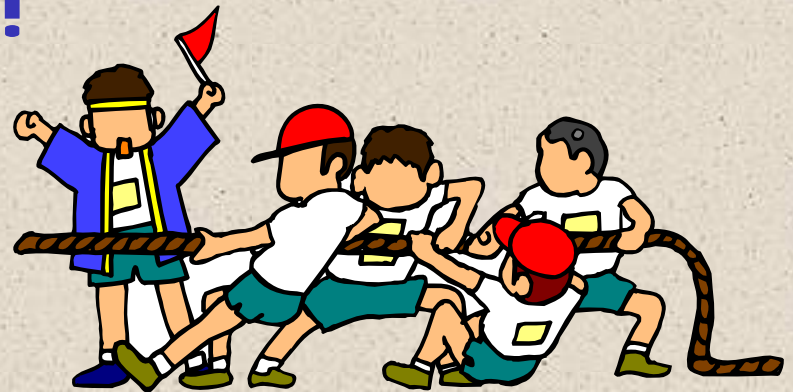
GUIDELINES FOR USING UNIFIED COMMAND

- Agree on Operations
Section Chief
- Designate a spokesperson
if necessary
- Train often as a team



UNIFIED COMMANDER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be clear on agency policy and limitations
- Have proper authorization
- Manage effectively
- Work as a team!!!



MANAGING IN UNIFIED COMMAND MEANS:

- Working closely and together with other IC's
- Providing sufficient, qualified staff/resources
- Anticipating and resolving problems

MANAGING IN UNIFIED COMMAND MEANS:

- Delegating authority as needed
- Inspecting and evaluating performance
- Communicating with own agency on priorities, plans, problems, and progress

LEVELS OF COORDINATION REQUIRED IN UNIFIED COMMAND

- With other members of the Unified Command
- With higher authorities, agency administrators

